Long/Fang Docket

January 2004



Prepared for:

City of Seattle DPD Comprehensive & Regional Planning Attn: Lish Whitson 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104

Prepared by:

R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. 705 Second Avenue, Suite 710 Seattle, WA 98104 Phone: (206) 624-6239

CITY OF SEATTLE

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

AMENDMENT APPLICATION



Use this application to propose a specific change to the adopted City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan. Applications are due to the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20th for consideration during that year. If January 20th falls on a weekend, the deadline is the Friday closest to that date. Any proposals received after January 20th will fall into the review process for the following year.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Application Received (stamp)

12/20/03

Date:
Garwin Long / Ping Fang
Applicant:
Mailing Address: 1420 156 th Ave NE #H
City: Bellevue State: WA Zip: 98007 Phone: () 425 – 562-1234
Email: Na
Contact (if not applicant): R.W. Thorpe & Associates – Robert Thorpe
705 2 nd Ave Suite 710 Mailing Address:
City: Seattle State: WAZip: 98104 Phone: 206 -624-6239
If applicable, Name of General Area/ Location/ Site which would be affected by this proposed change in text (attach additional sheets if necessary) North Rainier Neighborhood 20 ^{th Ave Soth} & Holgate. Seattle Washington
Three Parcels #3881900450 / 3881900455 / 3881900460 Total Sa Ft 20.236

If the application is approved for further consideration by the City Council, the applicant may be required to submit a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist. Acceptance of this application does not guarantee final approval.

REQUIRED QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following questions in text and/or graphic form and attach them to the application. Answer all questions separately and reference the question number in your answer. An application will be considered incomplete unless all the questions are answered.*

- 1) Provide a detailed description and explanation of the proposed text amendment. Include the element (land use, transportation, etc) and the specific goal or policy to be amended.
 - a) If the amendment is to an existing goal or policy, show proposed edits in "line in/line out" format with text to be added indicated by <u>underlining</u>, or text to be deleted indicated with <u>strikeouts</u>.
 - b) If the amendment would also require a change to the Seattle Municipal Code, indicate the section needing the change and suggested edits to the code language in "line in/line out" format.

(See Attached Responses)

2) Describe how the issue is currently addressed in the Comprehensive Plan. If the issue is not adequately addressed, describe the need for it.

(See Attached Responses)

3) Why is the proposed change the best means for meeting the identified public need? What other options are there for meeting the identified public need?

(See Attached Responses)

4) What do you anticipate will be the impacts caused by the change in text, including the geographic area affected and the issues presented? Why will the proposed change result in a net benefit to the community? If not, what type of benefit can be expected and why?

(See Attached Responses)

5) How would the proposed change comply with the community vision statements, goals, objectives, and policies of the Comprehensive Plan? Include any data, research, or reasoning that supports the proposed amendment.

(See Attached Responses)

6) Is there public support for this proposed text amendment (i.e., have you conducted community meetings, etc.)? Note: All applications will be subject to full public participation, notice, and environmental review.

(See Attached Responses)

* Demonstration that a change to the Comprehensive Plan is required lies solely upon the proponent. The greater the degree of change is proposed, the greater will be the burden of showing that the change is justified. This questionnaire will be used to evaluate each request and compare it to the Comprehensive Plan threshold criteria.

Your Comprehensive Plan Amendment Application must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20th to be considered in that calendar year. Please send it to:

DPD Comprehensive & Regional Planning, ATTN: Lish Whitson,

700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104-5070

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION FOR AGENCY I (we) the undersigned owner(s) of property numbered opposite my (our) name(s) hereby authorize R. W. Thorpe and Associates, Inc. to obtain information and act as agent on my (our) behalf in matters pertaining to the following: Land planning and land use feasibility. Permit applications and processing procedures.

Presentations to jurisdictional staff and elected officials.

Negotiations on matters of importance and related to the subject property. Other planning or permitting matters not specifically listed above. I. Morth Mallin nlibeing duly sworn, depose and say that I am a property owner or officer of the corporation owning the property indicated as Parcel #1 below. PARCEL #1 Name Name Address PARCEL #3 Name Address (if additional parcels see attached) Stated below is the name, address, title and phone number of the persons to be contacted for further information in regards to this Authorization for Agency. HORDE, AICP A.D. 19, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State duly commissioned and sworn personally appeared _ to me known to be the individual 5 described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that _ he _____ signed and sealed the said instrument as _____ free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein mentioned. WITNESS my hand and official seal hereto affixed the day and year to this certificate above written. Notary Public in and for the State of \d

residing at SEATLE, WA

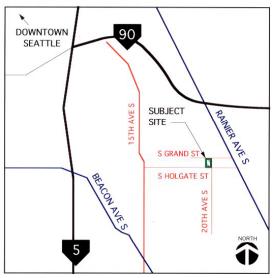
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City of Seattle – 2004 Annual Docket

Introduction

This purpose of this docket is to request that a section of Rainier Avenue through the North Rainier Urban Village boundaries be designated as "principal commercial street". The docket is also requesting that an amendment to the Future Land Use Map for a half block site, which is two blocks west of Rainier Avenue within the North Rainier Neighborhood. These two actions will allow for the subsequent rezoning of the site from Single Family - 5000 (existing), to Lowrise 1 (L-1) or Lowrise Duplex/ Triplex (LDT) as called out for in SMC 23.34.010.B(1-4).



The rezone will ultimately allow for development to take place, which will help accomplish certain goals and policies of both the Seattle Comprehensive Plan and North Rainier Neighborhood Plans of providing more housing opportunities within Seattle's neighborhoods as well as to create a better transition between existing land uses within the immediate area (i.e. industrial warehouse uses, multifamily and single family).

Existing Conditions

The subject half-block area contains three vacant lots, currently zoned SF 5000, that total approximately 20,236 sq ft in area. It is located on 20th Avenue S between S. Holgate St. and S. Grand St. On a larger scale, the site is located two blocks west of Rainier Avenue, five blocks south of I-90, and 10 blocks north of the proposed Beacon Hill Light Rail Station. The section of Rainier Avenue, through the village and east of the site, is defined by Seattle Dept. of Transportation as a commercial street, with uses aligning the corridor being very commercial in nature. The North Rainier Neigborhood Plan also recognizes this section of street to be a very important part of the neighborhood (Goal C-4). Between the subject site, directly across the street, and Rainier Avenue are properties zoned Commercial (C1-65). To the west, above the site in elevation (accessed from 19th Avenue) and south, across from Holgate Street, is singlefamily zoning (SF 5000). Adjacent to the site, and across the street, to the north, is multifamily zoning (L-1). There are single-family detached units to the west and south, vacant parcels immediately to the north and commercial/industrial uses to the east of the site (see Site Photos/Existing Conditions sheet).

The subject site is located within the North Rainier Urban Village area, which is designated by the City of Seattle as a target area for residential development per SMC 5.72.030. In order to meet the goals of this targeted area (to provide additional housing) the site must meet the four requirements of SMC 23.34.010.B.

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The subject site currently meets three of the four requirements (the neighborhood plan has designated the area as appropriate for the zone designation (Neighborhood Plan policy C 2.2), the land is proposed for rezoning does not exceed the max. area allowed (126 acres), and the rezone designation is to L-1 or LDT is allowed). However, Rainier Avenue needs to be designated as requested in order for rezoning to occur. The ultimate zoning from SF 5000 to LDT or L-1, would increase the density from 1 du/5,000 sf to 1 du/2,000 sf (LDT) (1,600 sf L-1). This increase in density will help to implement the goals of this residential and "affordable housing" target area for which an approval of such a request would create the potential of up to eight additional units over and above the existing density currently allowed in the area. Additionally, the request would provide a better transition of land uses between the lower intensity uses of Single-Family and that of the higher intensity uses of Multifamily and Commercial. This land use transition would comply with Goal C-2 of the North Rainier Neighborhood Plan.

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VIEW OF PROPERTIES ZONED L-1 TO NORTH



VIEW OF PROPERTY WEST OF SUBJECT SITE



VIEW OF SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SOUTH OF HOLGATE







VIEW OF RAINIER AVE TWO BLOCKS EAST



VIEW OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ACROSS STREET



LONG/FANG DOCKETING

R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc.

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SITE PHOTOS/ EXISTING CONDITIONS

Responses to Required Questionnaire

- 1. Please provide a detailed description and explanation of the proposed text amendment (include the Element (Land Use, Transportation, etc) and the specific goal or policy to be amended).
 - a) If the amendment is to an existing goal or policy, please show proposed edits in "line in/line out" format with text to be added indicated by <u>underlining</u>, or text to be deleted indicated with strikeouts.
 - b) If the amendment would also require a change to the Seattle Municipal Code, please indicate the section needed the change and suggested edits to the code language in "line in/line out" format.

Response: The requested docket item proposes no amendment to a goal or policy but does request that the section of Rainier Avenue S, through the North Rainier Urban Village be formally designated as "principal commercial street" and that an amendment to the Future Land Use Map (from Single-Family to Multifamily), for the western half of one block, which is located immediately west of 20th Ave., between S. Grand Street and S. Holgate Street. This will ultimately allow for subsequent rezoning from Single-Family Residential (SF 5000) to Multifamily Lowrise Duplex/Triplex (LDT) or Lowrise 1 (L-1).

2) Describe how the issue is currently addressed in the Comprehensive Plan. If the issue is not adequately addressed, describe the need for it.

Response: Currently, the North Rainier Neighborhood Plan recognizes the importance of Rainier Avenue but the issue of changing the designation is not addressed in the plan.

The change would help allow for higher density residential development to occur which would achieve both the Comprehensive Plan Goal LG68 and the North Rainier Neighborhood Plan Goal C-2 of increasing housing within the City of Seattle while providing appropriate transitions in the scale and intensity of land uses.

The site has a topographic change that will also create a desired transitional use area. (see Figure 2 – page 7) A transition from multifamily to the north and commercial, warehouse uses to the east and single family zones located on a higher elevation to the west would correct a zoning/land use "anomaly".

3) Why is the proposed change the best means for meeting the identified public need? What other options are there for meeting the identified public need?

Response: For this site-specific issue the proposed amendment of the is the only feasible option to allow increased housing density and more appropriate land use transitions from what currently exists. This would benefit the public by allowing similar properties to go through the rezone process successfully and ultimately provide more higher density residential development. An amendment to the

Future Land Use Map would also allow for better land use transitions (The Future Land Use Map reflects the zoning that existed before 1999 when the City of Seattle last amended the Comprehensive Plan. In the stated area, the Future Land Use Map does not promote better transitions but continues to encourage development patterns that do not meet the previously stated goals) (see Figure 1 – page 6).

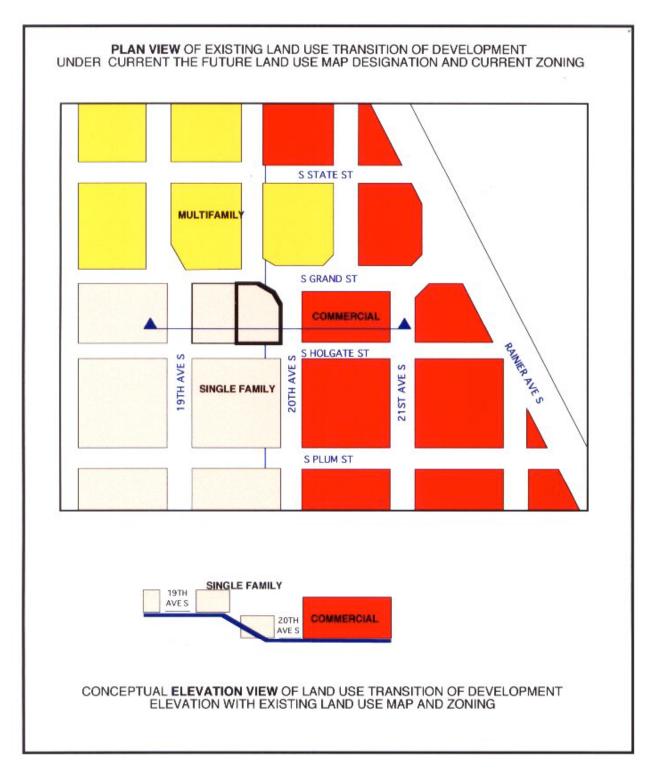


Figure 1

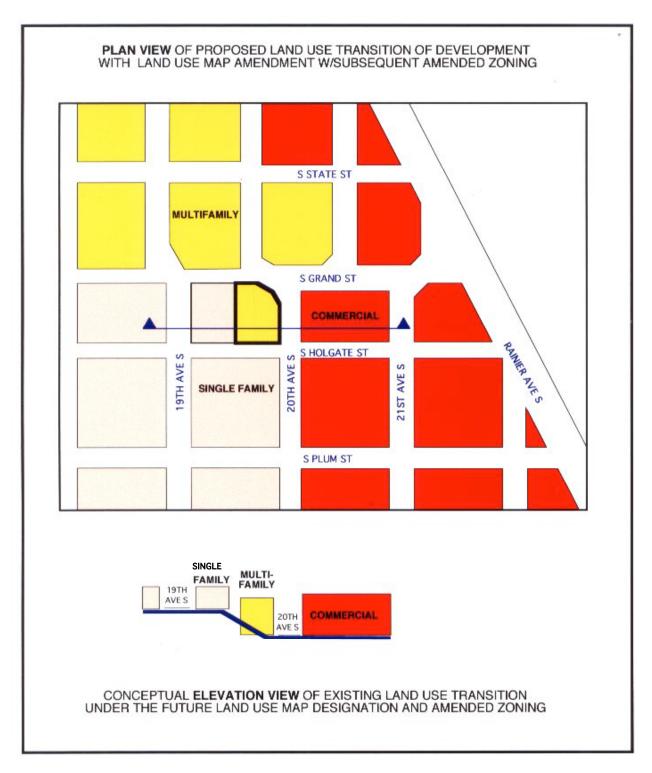


Figure 2

4) What do you anticipate will be the impacts caused by the change in text, including the geographic area affected and the issues presented? Why will the proposed change result in a net benefit to the community? If not, what type of benefit can be expected and why?

Response: The request to designate Rainier Avenue to a "principal commercial street" within the North Rainier Urban Village reinforce the recognition of the neighborhood that the street is "the spine" of the area, and will hellp implement development within the neighborhood that meet the goals and policies of the Neighborhood Plan. An amendment to the Future Land Use Map will make it consistent with the City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan and the North Rainier Neighborhood Plan and will provide a benefit to the community by increasing housing opportunities within the neighborhood. The amendment will also create a more desirable land use transition from the existing transition from Commercial to Single-Family at this location, an existing pattern found for many blocks along 20th Ave S. the amendment also considers "a change in circumstances" with the new light rail corridor (two blocks) and station (10 blocks).

5) How would the proposed changes comply with the community vision statements, goals, objectives, and policies of the Comprehensive Plan? Include any data, research, or reasoning that supports the proposed amendment.

Response: As stated the request to designate Rainier Avenue to a "principal commercial street" within the North Rainier Urban Village is consistent with the Neighborhoods vision of Rainier Avenue as well as the future higher density residential development this designation will allow in the future.

The site is located within the North Rainier Urban Village area, which is a residential targeted area. Sites within these targeted areas are encouraged to increase residential opportunities within the city and stimulate the construction of new affordable multifamily housing (SMC 5.72.030.2.a&b.)

The subject area is also within the Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Area (SESRA). The site meets the provisions of the SESRA and, with an amendment to the Future Land Use Map, the site will help meet the goals of the district overlay by encouraging development on vacant lands (SMC 23.67.040.C.2.d.)

The designation to "principal commercial street" is ultimately required before properties such as the subject property, are allowed to rezone and develop according to said goals

6) Is there public support for this proposed text amendment (i.e. have you conducted community meetings, etc,)? Note: All applications will be subject to full public participation, notice, and environmental review.

Response: Yes, there are ongoing efforts in working with public agencies and the public to gain public support. The applicants are currently working with representatives from the North Rainier Neighborhood (RainKing Neighborhood

Association), and staff at the Department of Planning and Development. The applicants will also be meeting with neighborhood residents, business owners and multifamily managers in the next few weeks to discuss the proposal. Results of those surveys will be added to the record of this request.

Compatibility Matrix

Companionity Matrix					
Symbol Key	++ Highly Compatible	+ Somewhat Compatible	S Subjective	Somewhat Incompatible I	 Highly ncompatible
Applicable Policy					<u>Grade</u>
1. – The rezone is consistent with the Seattle Com	prehensive Pl	an; and			
Comp. Plan Goal HG1 -Accommodate 50,000	0 to 60,000 A	dditional Ho	useholds ov	er next 20 yrs.	++
The development of this site as Lowrise 1 (L1) or Lowrise /Duplex Triplex (LDT) would result in minimum of 3 additional households, above the current SF 5,000.					
Comp. Plan Goal HG2 – Maintain housing at	ffordability o	over the life o	f this plan		++
Increasing the allowed density would distrie ach unit costing less, i.e. more affordable. Comp. Plan Policy H2 – Maintain sufficient z Seattle's projected share of King County house.	zoned develo sehold growt	pment capac h.	rity to accom	imodate	++
The zone update will implement this policy multifamily structures. And would accomm. Comp. Plan Policy H9 – Promote developme	odate a rang	e of incomes	(moderate	to lower).	++
proximity to light rail stations and other transit hubs.					1 1
Will allow for development at higher density in walking proximity to transit hubs of the Light Rail for Southeast Seattle. Comp. Plan Policy L1 - Promote development in urban villages as compact mixed-use ++					
neighborhoods.		-			
Will allow for this policy to be implemented within this area, which is adjacent to the MLK Jr. Way South designated commercial corridor, by future development of mixed-use projects.					
Comp. Plan Policy L10 - Consider, through neighborhood planning processes, recommendations for the revision of zoning to better reflect community preferences for the development character of an area, provided that consistency between the zoning and this plan is maintained.					S ++

These lots are within the Southeast Seattle Land Use Overlay District "Reinvestment Area." Granting of a Rezone request on this Vacant land with access to the arterial of Martin Luther King, Jr. Way South can be accomplished in coordination with the North Rainier Stewardship group.

Comp. Plan Policy L11 - Where appropriate, designate and define the extent of principal commercial streets for new urban villages through a Council-adopted neighborhood plan.

Principal commercial streets are those streets in the commercial area of each urban village which are accessible both to automobiles and to transit and which have or are planned to have sufficient quantity and variety of commercial uses, in sufficiently close proximity to provide the opportunity to meet a variety of residential needs and thereby constitute opportunities and incentives to using non-motorized modes of travel for work or shopping trips.

Compatibility Matrix

	++	+	S	-	
Symbol Key	Highly	Somewhat	Subjective	Somewhat	Highly
•	Compatible	Compatible	,	Incompatible	Incompatible

Applicable Policy Grade

The urban village concept is to be coordinated with North Rainier Stewardship group. This process is underway with various stakeholder populations as demonstrated by the SMC 23.67.040 & SMC 5.72.030

The public safety, in this transition area, will be improved by the presence of a development rather than vacant & un-maintained land. Granting of the rezone will expedite development.

Comp. Plan Policy LG39 - Use zoning to designate areas within city where various types of land use activities and intensities of development are appropriate and provide for a development pattern consistent with the urban village strategy.

The requested zone update will help implement this goal by designating land uses that are appropriate and consistent to help solidify the North Rainier urban village concept.

Comp. Plan Goal LG68 - Promote commercial areas with a development pattern, mix of uses and intensity of activity generally oriented to pedestrian and transit use by maintaining areas that already possess these characteristics and encouraging the transition necessary in other areas to achieve these conditions.

++

- 1. Strong, healthy business districts that are compatible with their neighborhoods, reinforce a sense of belonging while providing essential goods, services, and livelihoods for the residents of the city;
- 2. Mixed activity in commercial areas with development in adjacent areas;
- 3. Appropriate transitions in the scale and intensity of development between areas;
- 4. Residential development that is both livable for residents and compatible with the desired commercial function of the area; and
- 5. An active, attractive, accessible pedestrian environment.

The requested amendment and subsequent zoning will allow development that promotes a mix of uses and intensity of pedestrian oriented activity, would help strengthen the existing business district, and will provide for more appropriate transitions of uses and intensity.

North Rainier Neighborhood Plan Goal C-2 - Promotes better transitions between residential and multifamily and commercial zones.

Develop housing and accompanying land use policies for North Rainier, to suggest preferences for where new higher-density housing would be appropriate, what housing types and physical forms are most compatible, what housing needs to be preserved, and to ensure sensitive and gradual transition from higher-intensity mixed-use and multifamily residential to single family areas.

North Rainier Neighborhood Plan Policy C-2.2 – Allow for highest intensity residential ++ development to occur in...vacant parcels east of 23rd Avenue S. and west to 17th Avenue S. around the intersection of Massachusetts Street and Rainier Avenue S.

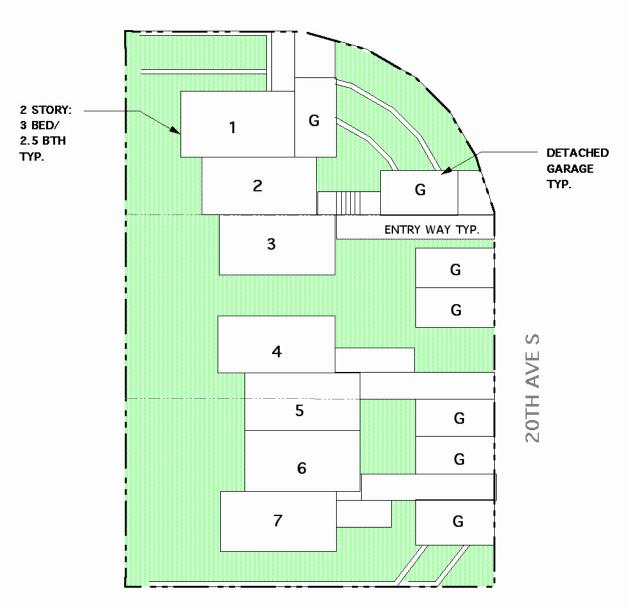
The subject site is located two blocks south and two blocks west of said intersection.

Compatibility Matrix

Symbol Key	++ Highly Compatible	+ Somewhat Compatible	S Subjective	- Somewhat Incompatible	 Highly Incompatible
Applicable Policy G					
North Rainier Neighborhood Plan Policy C-2.5– Promote mixed use, townhomes, and higher density development as potential housing types that could accommodate anticipated growth					++
The request will ultimately allow for this type of development to occur.					
North Rainier Neighborhood Plan Goal C-4A – Recognize importance of street (Rainier) as arterial spine of the entire Rainier Valley. Improve the street into a grand boulevard that retains its vista of Mount Rainier and balances the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists,				5 +	

The request for "principal commercial street" appears to meet this definition.

S GRAND STREET



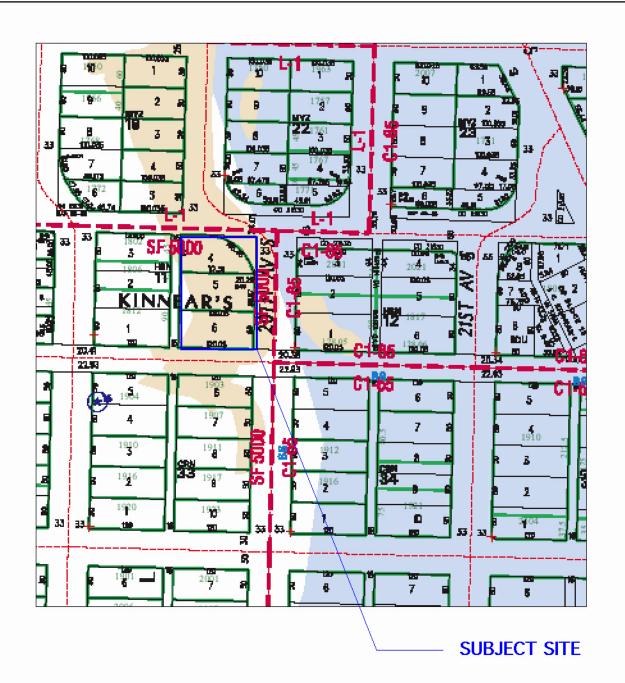
S HOLGATE STREET

NOTE: ORIGINAL LAYOUT BY LONG/FANG



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206 624 62 39 / lax 206 625 0930	Environmental
l: planning@iwta.com	Economics

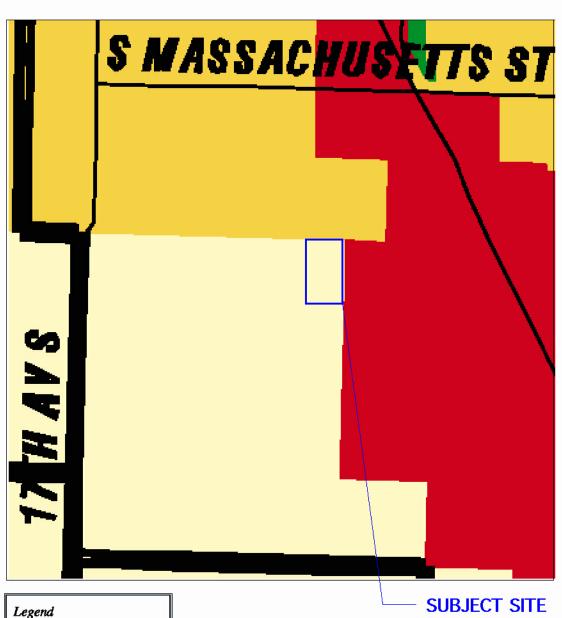




SOURCE: CITY OF SEATTLE ZONING MAP

(AREA MAGNIFIED FOR LEGIBILITY
PURPOSES)

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Urban Center/Center Village H Hub Urban Village R Residential Urban Village Manufacturing/Industrial Center Neighborhood Anchor City-Owned Open Space Single Family Residential Areas Multi-Family Residential Areas Commercial/Mixed Use Areas Downtown Areas Industrial Areas

(APPROXIMATE)

SOURCE: CITY OF SEATTLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP (AREA MAGNIFIED FOR LEGIBILITY PURPOSES)

dm JB old RWT R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. 710 Hoge Building 705 2nd Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Seattle / Anchorage / Deriver phone 205 624 6239 / Tax 206 625 0930 e-mall: plan pho@wyta.com

Major Institutions

References

RW Thorpe & Associates, Inc.

Robert W. Thorpe, President 705 2nd Avenue, Suite 710 Seattle, WA 98104 206/624-6239 Fax 206/625-0930 planning@rwta.com